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Jordan: Jordan succeeded in delaying a final decision on the entry of other Arab troops into Jordan at the United Arab Command (UAC) meeting in Cairo last weekend.

UAC commander in chief Amir, an Egyptian, reportedly conceded in writing that certain issues raised by Jordan required a reconsideration of the Arab Defense Council's decisions in early December, including the plan to station troops in Jordan. Amir has requested the League of Arab States to convene another defense council meeting as soon as possible to consider these issues.

Jordan won this reprieve by playing on Arab fears of another war with Israel and by being, in effect, more Arab than the others in the position it adopted. The Jordanians apparently made their agreement to the stationing of Iraqi and Saudi troops in west Jordan contingent on full implementation of the defense council's plan to meet the Israeli threat, which calls for additional military moves by the other Arab states.

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The PLO's response to the postponement of a final decision on the deployment issue has been to form a "secret" revolutionary council aimed at overthrowing Husayn, according to a PLO announcement yesterday. The official radio and the press in Cairo and Baghdad are also critical of Jordan's delaying tactics.

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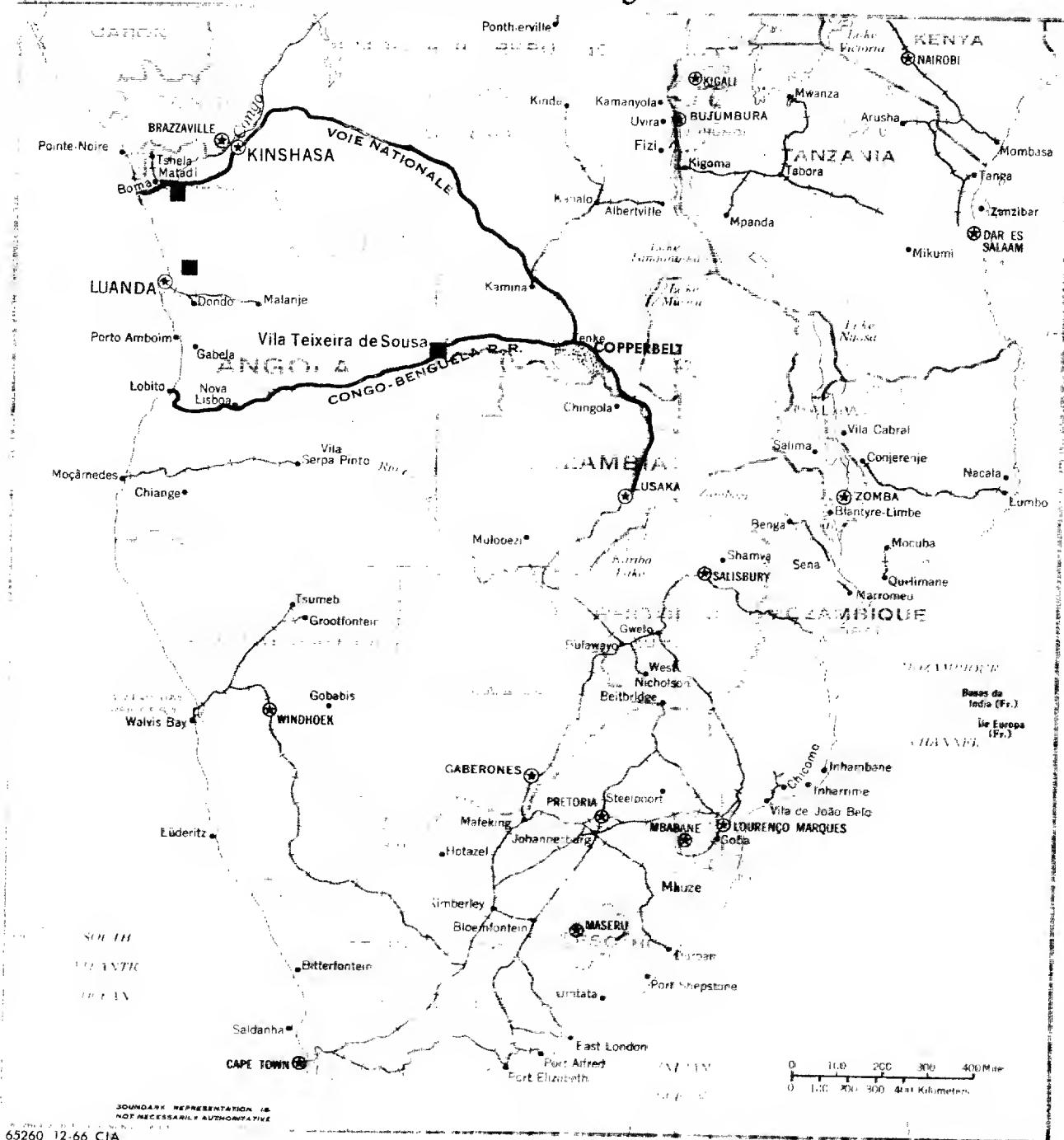
In Amman four bombs, presumably planted by Palestinian terrorists, exploded yesterday in the area where most government ministries are located.

The reshuffling of the Jordanian cabinet last week is being widely criticized in Palestinian west Jordan because Prime Minister Wasfi Tal has been retained. The traditional representational balance was maintained with seven of the 13 ministries being headed by Palestinians, reflecting their major share of Jordan's population. However, the two Palestinians who were added, like the five who were retained, are not representative of popular opinion there.

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ANGOLA / CONGO: Locations of Insurgent Action



Angola-Congo (Kinshasa): A recent border raid by Congo-based Angolan insurgents will probably lead to new Portuguese measures against Kinshasa, but probably will not result in long-term closure of vital Congolese trade routes.

Following the unusually large-scale insurgent raid on Vila Teixeira de Sousa, in which Portugal claims to have killed 200-300 insurgents, Lisbon warned on 27 December of new, but unspecified, action to be taken against the Congo.

Portuguese-Congolese relations have deteriorated over the last few months. Kinshasa is nervous over a rumored Portuguese role in former premier Tshombé's plotting. In turn Lisbon wants Kinshasa to restrict support for cross-border operations by Holden Roberto's Revolutionary Government in Exile. The Congo broke relations with Portugal in October over the issue of Portuguese connivance with Tshombé. In early December two insurgent raids killed 26 Portuguese, the highest weekly total in years, and the Portuguese retaliated with a limited closure of the Angola-Congo border.

Portugal is capable of bringing the Congo's trade-oriented economy--particularly geared to copper exports--to a halt. Virtually all Congolese trade must pass over Angola's Benguela Railroad or over the Voie Nationale, which depends on continued dredging of the Congo river by the Portuguese. During periodic strains in relations with the Congo, Portugal has kept open the possibility that these routes may be affected. However, even when Roberto's insurgent threat was far more serious, limited action by Lisbon was sufficient to remind the Congolese of the economic facts of life.

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Portugal-Macao: Recent reports that Lisbon might offer to relinquish Macao to the Chinese Communists appear to be without foundation.

The US Embassy in Lisbon sees no evidence that Portugal might be considering such a move. Macao's continuing psychological importance to the Portuguese rules out discussion of the possibility Portugal might give it up voluntarily, even though Lisbon recognizes that it is impossible to defend the colony. Lisbon press reports give the impression that the situation in Macao has returned to normal.

The Portuguese apparently intend to continue to make every effort to placate Peking, even if their actions prompt a break with the Chinese Nationalists. Lisbon has unconditionally accepted all demands of the Chinese Communists in Macao stemming from the recent riots--although some details remain to be worked out--and is taking steps to prevent Chinese Nationalist operations there. In negotiations now under way in Kwangtung Province between Chinese Communist and Portuguese officials, Peking is insisting on the elimination of all Chinese Nationalist activities in Macao.

According to press reports, Taipei has filed two protests with Portugal over the actions of the authorities in Macao and is considering severing relations with Lisbon. [redacted]

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Luxembourg: Although the month-old cabinet crisis has ended, the issue of Luxembourg's continued contribution of a NATO force remains unsettled.

The government crisis ended on 23 December following approval by the dominant Christian Socialist and Socialist parties of a program for the reconstructed coalition cabinet.

The two parties as yet have been unable to reach full agreement on the military establishment--the issue which brought down the last government. This issue will have to be settled before the new cabinet presents its program to parliament on about 10 January.

Both parties are reported to have agreed to abandon military conscription, but Prime Minister Werner is still hopeful of salvaging Luxembourg's token contribution to NATO by pushing the idea of a force consisting entirely of volunteers.

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NOTES

Turkey-USSR: The joint Turkish-Soviet communique issued at the end of Premier Kosygin's visit to Turkey contained no surprises. Cautiously worded, it recognizes the disparate attitudes of Ankara and Moscow on basic east-west issues while expressing general agreement on uncontroversial items in the international field. The Turks were probably pleased that Kosygin reiterated earlier statements of the Soviet position on Cyprus, which Ankara views as favoring its side in that dispute.

*USSR-Cuba: The Soviet announcement yesterday that a communications satellite ground station will be built in Cuba is the first clear indication that the USSR hopes to establish a world-wide network with its Molniya system. TASS characterized the installation as a co-operative effort, to be built and operated jointly by Soviet and Cuban personnel. France, the only other country to participate in the Molniya system, is preparing to exchange color television broadcasts with the USSR by late 1967.

* Because of the shortage of time for preparation of this item, the analytic interpretation presented here has been produced by the Central Intelligence Agency without the participation of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State or of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

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